

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, July 2, 2019, at Noon.**

The following were present: Mayor Buzzett, Commissioners Ashbrook, Langston, and Lowry. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, and Attorney Adam Albritton were also present. Commissioner Hoffman was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 18, 2019. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Building Department Update – Kelly Simpson updated the Commission on the number of permits that have been issued by the Building Department since the last meeting: Demolition Permits 1; Residential Reroof 11; Commercial Reroof 3; Residential Remodel 2; Commercial Remodel 1; Temporary Power Poles 1; Electric Service Repair 2; Accessory Structures 2; New Single Family Structures 1; Temporary Structure Permits 2, and Increased Cost of Compliance Letters 1.

Planning Board – James Anthony

Mr. Anthony asked for the Commission's help in allowing him to place a mobile home in the 300 Block of Avenue A. An Ordinance will have to be passed to allow for trailers in the 300 Block of Avenue A. A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, for attorney Albritton to draft an Ordinance allowing mobile homes in the 300 Block of Avenue A. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. It was noted that Mr. Anthony will need to have letters from his neighbors approving this and a Public Hearing will be necessary for the Ordinance.

PSJRA Update – PSJRA Chairman Ashbrook, stated there was no meeting today. Chester Davis requested a draw of \$1,600 from the PSJRA funding for North Port St. Joe for travel for John Hendry to attend a meeting here with the Triumph Committee. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

City Attorney –

Boat Slip Rental Agreement –

After discussion, Attorney Albritton was directed to draft an agreement setting General Liability at \$1,000,000 Pollution at \$2,000,000 and a charge of \$12 per LF for a docking charge. Cindy Little of Fishing Express noted that most charters already have the required insurance.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Jim Anderson

Old Business

FEMA Damage Assessment Report Update –

FEMA representatives will be here Monday to review the Substantial Damage Report and approve the language of the letter that will be sent to the individuals impacted by Hurricane Michael.

MLK Corridor Zoning Change – Consideration of Adoption on 8/6/19 –

Mr. Anderson reminded everyone of the date this will be heard by the Commission.

New Business

Commission Meeting Time – Mayor Buzzett:

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Lowry, to have the meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. and the third Tuesday meeting at Noon. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. This will become effective September 1, 2019.

Solar Energy – Mayor Buzzett:

Mayor Buzzett shared that he would like for Duke Energy to work with the City's Surface Water and Wastewater Plants to see if solar energy would be a viable option for the plants. Mr. Anderson has also sent a request to Danny Collins of Duke Energy on this.

Police Station – Mayor Buzzett:

Mayor Buzzett expressed his desire to see the Police Station back at City Hall. Staff will be working on the funding that is available from insurance and FEMA.

DR 420 –

Mr. Anderson shared that the DR 420 Form must be returned in 30 days and in the past, the Commission has elected to show a 1 Mill increase for planning purposes. With the current Millage rate of 3.5914, he anticipates an AD Tax shortfall of approximately \$77,000. Triumph Funds received total \$88,000 which will be escrowed for the shortfall. Should the City receive more tax money, the difference would have to be returned to Triumph. He recommended holding the line on the millage and thinking long term.

Public Works – John Grantland was on vacation and not at the meeting. Mr. Anderson noted that the Public Works Department is working at Clifford Sims Park, Core Park, Jones Homestead, and will be returning to the alleyway between 6th and 7th Streets.

Commissioner Langston noted the need for ditches to be cleaned up and have a yearly plan to keep them clean.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma was running the plant and unable to be at the meeting.

Chemical Cost

Mr. Anderson shared that Mr. McClamma is working on a chemical plan as prices have skyrocketed.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis advised that there is 2 ½' of room in the pond, there is no Algae in the pond, and the Grit Kings are problematic due to sand. He recommended that a filter maintenance plan be established as there are 1,004 filters to be replaced and the cost of each filter is \$130.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour shared the first round of the budget has been completed, it needs one more review, and he will have it ready for the next meeting. He has scheduled Budget Meeting for each Tuesday in August should they be needed.

City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III

Frank Pate Park Task Order Update – This project is currently being advertised.

Trail Lighting / Upgrades Grant Update – There was nothing new on this.

There is approximately \$80,000 left in the Road Bond Funds. Suggestions have been to use these funds for guard rails at 18th Street and Long Avenue, at a cost of approximately \$30,000 and on 8th Street near the STAC House at approximately \$27,500.

Commissioner Langston asked if any of the funds can be used for speed bumps and Mr. Smallwood responded that he would ask.

Code Enforcement no action was required.

Commissioner Langston asked about the possibility of having abandoned vehicles removed. It was noted that if they are on City Right of Way, removal can be done.

Commissioner Lowry noted that household debris that is being taken to the side of the road. Mr. Anderson shared that the service for picking up household debris is no longer available and residents are responsible for their on household debris. The City will pick up the 4' x 4' stacks of small yard debris.

Mayor Buzzett shared that he will be sending a letter to residents asking them to take pride in their City and property by working together to clean everything up.

Commissioner Ashbrook asked if there are funds for home demolition. Mr. Anderson noted there could possibly be Hazzard Mitigation Funds that could be used for that.

Police Department – Chief Matt Herring did not have anything to update the Commission on. He did note that if abandoned vehicles are effecting public safety, and are on the City Right of Way, the Police Department can do something about the situation.

City Clerk - Charlotte Pierce did not have any updates for the Commission.

Citizens to be Heard –

Chester Davis thanked the Commission for agreeing to use \$1,600 from PSJRA Funds to provide airline travel for John Hendry. He noted the need for funds to improve the Peters Park area, more restrooms for ladies in the Washington Gym, broken gym windows that need repair, stated the AC is not sufficient, and that we do not need to wait for a hurricane to make these repairs and improvements.

Amy Rogers shared her concerns about the MLK rezoning, noted that residents do not want their personal property impacted by the proposed changes, asked for repairs to be made to the Concession Stand at Peters Park, and noted a need for the WIG Center bathroom to be repaired. It was noted that the Concession Stand and bathroom have already been repaired.

Robert Branch thanked the Commission for meeting half way on the time of the City Commission meetings and noted the need for the cleanout of stormwater drains.

Christy McElroy thanked Mayor Buzzett for discussing finances, and shared her concerns about the Bike Path, drainage issues, and the NERDA Grant.

Cindy Little shared of the need for power at Clifford Sims Park. Mr. Anderson noted this is being worked on.

Chester Davis shared the NPSJ PAC had been meeting for over 3 years, people were invited to attend their meetings and no one had objected to the plans that have been presented. Mayor Buzzett encouraged him to reach out to the individuals that had concerns to see if he could help them understand what is being done.

Bonnie Bell thanked Commissioner Langston for his efforts to improve the drainage system. He also encouraged everyone that had played ball at Washington Gym to get a shovel and help open up the drains.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Ashbrook did not have anything to discuss.

Commissioner Lowry noted the temperature in the building was good but encouraged Staff to work on the issue.

Commissioner Langston shared about a Hurricane Preparedness Committee that he is working on to help resident that lack resources to evacuate, and asked that the flower beds on MLK be cleaned by tomorrow. He thanked those present for attending the meeting and encouraged everyone to enjoy their 4th.

Mayor Buzzett encouraged everyone to enjoy the 4th, noted there is a Street Dance on the 4th, there is also a new business, "Cozy Kitchen" opening this week and encouraged residents to attend the grand opening Thursday.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to adjourn the meeting at 1:31 P.M.

Approved this 16th day of July 2019.

Rex Buzzett
Rex Buzzett, Mayor

7/16/19
Date

Charlotte M. Pierce
Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

7/16/19
Date